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Title : Need to upgrade the load bearing capacity of railway tracks in Orissa to 30 tonnes Axle enabling increase in carrying capacity per wagon to 100 tonnes.

SHRI B. MAHTAB (CUTTACK): Orissa is on the threshold of major industrial revolution with a number of Steel/Aluminium/Alumina/Thermal Power Plants coming up in different parts of the State. It is expected that by 2016 the generation of additional volume of traffic shall be 200 MTPA which will include raw materials and finished products. In order to cater to such a large volume of traffic, it is absolutely necessary that Rail infrastructure needs immediate attention for upgradation of standards and expansion.

Presently, the track configuration of East Coast Railways as well as most parts of South Eastern Railway is with 22.5 tonne Axle load which enables carrying capacity of raw materials and finished products to a maximum of 58 tonnes wagon. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please listen to him.

SHRI B. MAHTAB : Considering the large volume of traffic that will be generated in near future, the present module of rail transportation will not be adequate. Therefore, I urge upon the Government to upgrade the status of the track at least 30 tonnes Axle load for all the new line projects in Orissa enabling increase in carrying capacity per wagon to 100 tonnes. East Coast Rail link from Kharagpur to Visakhapatnam also needs to be upgraded to 30 tons Axle load.